

What is claimed is:

1. A system for monitoring an environment, said system comprising:
a plurality of sensors, each sensor generating respective events in response to activity in said environment;
a processor in operative association with the sensors, and
at least one stored set of linked events accessible to said processor, wherein said processor is responsive to an event being generated by a sensor to determine whether the event is in a sequence of events corresponding to a stored set of linked events and to generate an alarm accordingly.
2. A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of sensors comprises an authorising sensor arranged to authenticate an individual's identity.
3. A system as claimed in claim 2 wherein at least one event in at least one of said at least one stored set of linked events includes authentication of an individual by said authorising sensor.
4. A system as claimed in claim 3 wherein said processor is adapted to track the location of any individual within the premises through matching a sequence of sensor events including said authentication event with a stored set of linked events.
5. A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said system is responsive to a sequence of events not matching a stored set of linked events to generate an alarm.

6. A system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the environment comprises a premises having at least one entry point providing access from the exterior, and wherein said system includes a sensor associated with each entry point and which is operable to detect whether a door/window at the entry point has been opened, whereby the processor is arranged to generate an alarm unless a sensor associated with an access point generates an event in sequence with authentication of an authorised individual by said authorising sensor and matching a stored set of linked events.

7. A system as claimed in claim 6 wherein if access of an unauthorised individual through an open access point generates an event which is not in a sequence matching a stored set of linked events, the processor is operable to generate an alarm.

8. A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the premises includes a plurality of rooms connected by interior doors, and wherein the system includes a sensor associated with each interior door, each sensor being operable to detect when the door has been opened or closed, and wherein at least one event in said at least one stored set of linked events includes a door opening.

9. A system as claimed in claim 6 wherein the plurality of sensors comprise heat and/or motion sensors, in addition to contact and/or vibration sensors in operative association with the door/window at any access point.

10. A system as claimed in claim 1 further including at least one video camera in operative association with the processor, such that on detection of

an unauthorised individual, the processor activates a video camera such as to produce a video and/or audio recording of the unauthorised individual.

11. A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the system comprises one or more signal generators in operative association with the processor, such that a signal can be provided to any authorised individual on the premises, detailing the location and/or number of unauthorised individuals in the premises.

12. A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the system is connectable to an external monitoring station to which information can be transmitted from the system.